Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Twenty-second session
17 January-4 February 2000

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the Committee.
4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
5. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
6. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
7. Provisional agenda for the twenty-third session.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-second session.

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

The twenty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the agenda shall be adopted by the Committee at the beginning of its meetings. Rule 5 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, giving priority to items the inclusion of which was decided at a previous session of the Committee.

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At its twenty-first session, the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its twenty-second session.

At its sixth session, the Committee set up two standing working groups — Working Group I, to consider and suggest ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee; and Working Group II, to consider ways and means of implementing article 21 of the Convention. At its seventh session, the Committee decided to keep the membership of the Working Groups flexible. At its eleventh session, the Committee decided that the Working Groups should be open only to members of the Committee, in accordance with past practice. Specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations that could make substantive contributions to questions under consideration could be invited by the Working Groups to contribute to their deliberations. The Working Groups will meet during the session.

The proposed organization of work for the session is contained in the annex.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2000/I/1)

3. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the Committee

At its twelfth session, the Committee decided to include an item that would permit the Chairperson to brief the Committee on activities and events occurring since the previous session that had a bearing on the Committee's work.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures which they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in this respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned, and thereafter at least every four years and whenever the Committee so requests.

For its twenty-second session, the Committee, taking into account the criteria of preference to be given to those States parties whose reports had been pending for the longest time, the need to give priority to initial reports and the desirability of balance of reports in terms of geographic and other factors, decided to invite eight States parties to submit reports, which will be before the Committee (see documentation list below).

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of the State is being examined, and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the reports. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its twenty-second session.

Rule 47 of the rules of procedure provides that at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee. The Committee at its twenty-second session will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the submission of the reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention.

The Committee decided at its ninth session that a pre-session working group should be convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to periodic reports for transmission to the representatives of States parties before the meetings at which their reports were to be considered. At its nineteenth session, the Committee decided that the pre-session working group would meet at the end of the session prior to which second and subsequent reports would be considered. The pre-session working group for the twenty-first session met in New York from 28 June to 2 July 1999.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2000/I/2)

Initial report of India (CEDAW/C/IND/1)

Initial and second periodic reports of Jordan (CEDAW/C/JOR/1 and 2)

Initial, second, third and fourth reports of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (former Zaire) (CEDAW/C/ZAR/1, 2, and 2/Add.1 and Corr.1; and CEDAW/C/COD/1)

Initial report of Myanmar (CEDAW/C/MMR/1)

Combined second and third periodic reports of Burkina Faso (CEDAW/C/BFA/2-3)

Third periodic report of Luxembourg (CEDAW/C/LUX/3 and Add.1)

Combined second and third, and fourth reports of Germany (CEDAW/C/DEU/2-3 and 4)

Third report of Belarus (CEDAW/C/BLR/3)

Report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/2000/I/CRP.1/Add.4, Add.5 (Burkina Faso), Add.6 (Belarus), Add.7 (Luxembourg) and Add.8 (Germany))

Responses to list of issues (CEDAW/PSWG/2000/I/CRP.2 (Burkina Faso) and Add.1 (Luxembourg), Add.2 (Belarus) and Add.3 (Germany))

5. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee, together with comments, if any, from States parties. Rule 48 of the rules of procedure provides that those suggestions and general recommendations shall be communicated by the Committee, through the Secretary-General, to the States parties for their comments.

At its tenth session, under the agenda item entitled "Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", the Committee decided to provide opportunities for specialists from the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to present to it in plenary information related to specific articles of the Convention or issues being considered for general recommendations and suggestions.

At the same session, the Committee decided to select and review specific articles and other issues to be considered at subsequent sessions as a long-term programme, without prejudice to any changes that might be necessary as a result of new developments and priorities arising from the review of the reports of States parties.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities, and that the Committee may invite the specialized agencies to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the reports provided by specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2000/I/3)

Addenda

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (CEDAW/C/2000/I/3/Add.1)

Report of the World Health Organization (CEDAW/C/2000/I/3/Add.2)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2000/I/3/Add.3)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2000/I/3/Add.4)

6. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

At its twelfth session, the Committee decided that the Secretariat should prepare every year, as a pre-session document, a report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or developments elsewhere in the human rights regime. In view of the fact that the Committee has been authorized to hold two sessions annually, the Secretariat has decided to provide the Committee with a report on ways and means at each session.

At its twentieth session, the Committee designated one of its members to review the draft rules of procedure contained in document CEDAW/C/1997/WG.I/WP.1 and to submit her proposals for consideration at its twenty-first session. At its twenty-first session, the Committee decided to continue the consideration of its rules of procedure at its twenty-second session based on a working paper integrating discussion at its twenty-first session and the proposals of members. The draft rules of procedure and proposals thereon are before the Committee.

At its twenty-first session, the Committee requested the Secretariat to provide information at its twenty-second session on procedures with regard to existing treaty-based communications and inquiry mechanisms. It also requested the Secretariat to provide a substantive comparative analysis of the optional protocol to the Convention with existing United Nations treaty-based communications and inquiry mechanisms. A report containing the information and comparative analysis requested is before the Committee.

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee (CEDAW/C/2000/I/4)

Draft rules of procedure (CEDAW/C/1997/WG.I/WP.1)

Proposals on draft rules of procedure (CEDAW/C/2000/I/WG.I/WP.1)

Report of the Secretariat on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/2000/I/5)

7. Provisional agenda for the twenty-third session

At its tenth session, the Committee decided that the draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee would be approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the twenty-third session of the Committee (CEDAW/C/2000/I/L.___)

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-second session

Annex

Proposed organization of work

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Monday, 17 January 2000		
	445th meeting	
10 a.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session
	Item 2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	Item 3	Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the Committee
	Item 5	Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
		Introductory statement
	Item 6	Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee
		Introductory statement
3 p.m. (closed)	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole: composition of Working Groups I and II and issues for discussion
Tuesday, 18 January 2000		
10-11.30 a.m. (closed)		Informal meeting with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3-4.30 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.30-6 p.m. (closed)	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Wednesday, 19 January 2000		
	446th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4	Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
		Luxembourg, third period report (CEDAW/C/LUX/3 and Add.1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
	447th meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Luxembourg (continued)
(closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Thursday, 20 January 2000		
	448th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Jordan, initial and second periodic reports (CEDAW/C/JOR/1 and 2)
10.30-11.15 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.15 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
	449th meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Jordan (continued)
	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 21 January 2000		
	450th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Myanmar, initial report (CEDAW/C/MMR/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
	451st meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Myanmar (continued)
	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Monday, 24 January 2000		
	452nd meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	India, initial report (CEDAW/C/IND/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
	453rd meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	India (continued)
	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 25 January 2000		
	454th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Democratic Republic of the Congo, initial, second and third period reports (CEDAW/C/ZAR/1, 2 and 2/Add.1 and Corr.1, and CEDAW/C/COD/1)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
	455th meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Democratic Republic of the Congo (continued)
Wednesday, 26 January 2000		
	456th meeting	
10 a.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Replies (Jordan)
	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
	457th meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Replies (Myanmar)
		Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 27 January 2000		
	458th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Burkina Faso, combined second and third periodic reports (CEDAW/C/BFA/2-3)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
	459th meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Burkina Faso (continued)
(closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 28 January 2000		
	460th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Belarus, third period report (CEDAW/C/BLR/3)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by the experts and dialogue with the Committee
	461st meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Belarus (continued)
(closed)	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Monday, 31 January 2000		
	462nd meeting	
10 a.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Replies (India)
	463rd meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Replies (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
(closed)	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Tuesday, 1 February 2000		
	464th meeting	
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Germany, combined second and third periodic reports and fourth periodic report (CEDAW/C/DEU/2-3 and 4)
10.30-11.30 a.m.		Introduction by State party's representative
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Dialogue with the Committee
	465th meeting	
3 p.m.	Item 4 (continued)	Germany (continued)
(closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Wednesday, 2 February 2000		
10 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3 p.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 3 February 2000		
10 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3 p.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 4 February 2000		
10 a.m. (closed)	Item 4 (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
	466th meeting	
3 p.m.	Items 5 and 6 (continued)	Adoption of the reports of Working Groups I and II
	Item 7	Provisional agenda for the twenty-third session
	Item 8	Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-second session